

**REMARKS**

The Examiner's attention to the present application is noted with appreciation.

One of the amendments to the specification has been made to clarify the description. Two of the amendments have been made to rectify amendments incorrectly submitted in the last response. No new matter has been introduced.

The listing of claims in this paper includes the present amendments as well as amendments submitted in the previous response. The present amendments are discussed below.

In claim 1, the number of power supplies has been modified to at least one, and the claim has been clarified to show that the field generated by the pulse circuit ionizes the gas, while an additional field excites the atomic state of the gas. Support for these amendments may be found throughout the specification; see, for example, Figure 3, as well as page 14, lines 10-20.

In claim 3, typographical errors were corrected.

In claim 4, the range of the pulse width was modified to match that disclosed in the specification; see, for example, page 11, lines 12-14, and page 18, lines 30-1.

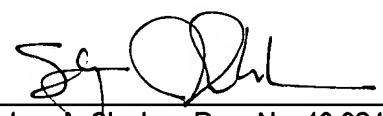
No new matter has been introduced by the present amendments.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner believes that prosecution of this application might be expedited by discussion of the issues, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

With the previously submitted Amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to September 9, 2003, with the appropriate fee, was filed. Since this is a Supplemental Amendment, we do not believe that any additional fees are due. However, authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct. 13-4213. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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